

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 19, with the following paragraph:

To achieve the above object, a steering wheel ~~according to the present invention section~~ comprises a wheel section at least including a core of a predetermined shape and a controller mounted on the wheel section for controlling a predetermined device. Here, the controller includes: a supporting section having a space whose shape is formed corresponding to the core and having a cylindrical outer surface with a predetermined central axis; a rotating section ~~operable~~ having a cylindrical inner surface that is substantially the same as that of the cylindrical outer surface of the supporting section in diameter and that is slidably mounted on the cylindrical outer surface of the supporting section, to rotate about ~~a~~ the predetermined rotational central axis; and at least one switch for outputting a signal in response to a rotation of the rotating section. Also, the supporting section accommodates the core in the space for being fixed to the core.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 4, with the following paragraph:

FIGS. 6A and 6B are schematic diagrams each illustrating ~~the above-stated~~ a switch 1217a and an elastic member 1218a.

Please replace the paragraph bridging pages 5-6, beginning at page 5, line 25, with the following paragraph:

The wheel section 11 is a substantially circular frame gripped by a driver for steering a vehicle while driving. Here, FIG. 2 is a schematic diagram illustrating a three-dimensional coordinate system used in the descriptions of the steering wheel 1. In FIG. 2, the wheel section 11 rotates about an axis C1 in a plane P1 (a portion indicated by a hatched line extending down and to the left). In the three-dimensional coordinate system, a z-axis passes through a center C_1 of the wheel section 11, and intersects at right angles with the plane P1, passes through the upper and lower ends of the wheel section 11 when the vehicle is traveling in a straight line, and

intersects at right angles with the z-axis. Further, a y-axis intersects at right angles with the z- and z-axes. Note that, in the present embodiment, the plane P1 is included in an xy plane.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 24, line 7, with the following paragraph:

As described above, based on the steering wheel 1 according to the present embodiment, the rotating section 126 is structured so as to be capable of rotating about the central axis C2 within a predetermined area, and the protruding member 1241 depresses the buttons of the switches 1217a and ~~1218b~~ 1217b when the user rotates the rotating section 126. As such, the rotating section 126 is capable of rotating within a predetermined area, and the user can easily sense the extent to which the rotating section 126 should be rotated to depress the switch 1217a and switch 1217b. Thus, it is possible to provide the steering wheel 1 provided with the controller 12 capable of controlling the vehicle-mounted device more easily.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 25, line 12, with the following paragraph:

Also, in the above-described embodiment, for the sake of convenience, it is assumed that the wheel section 11 is a substantially circular ring whose cross section is circular. Therefore, it is also assumed that the controller 12 is cylindrical arc-shaped whose cross section is circular, but it is not limited thereto. The outer ~~diameter~~ shape of the controller 12 may be arbitrarily shaped. As stated above, in general, the wheel section 11 has an outer shape allowing the driver to easily grip it. Thus, preferably, the controller 12 has an outer shape corresponding to the wheel section 11. Also, a shape of the cross section of the core 111 is not limited to a circle, and it may have an arbitrary shape.